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FAIRS Product Specific

Selected Fruits and Vegetables

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Report Highlights:

Though competition is strong from other suppliers, Russia is a growing market for fruits and vegetables from the United States, especially for high-quality produce such as apples and pears. Post provides additional information on Russia's labeling and certification laws, and tariff rates for selected products.

Includes PSD Changes: No
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Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards

This report was prepared by the Office of Agricultural Affairs of the American Embassy in Moscow, Russia for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care was taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. It is highly recommended that U.S. Exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any goods are shipped.

FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCT IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY .

Executive Summary

Although the United States faces strong competition from European and other suppliers, the current favorable U.S. Dollar/Euro exchange rate and demand for a wide variety of quality products provides an opportunity for American exporters. This report provides technical information on exporting selected fruits and vegetables to Russia. For additional information on the overall market, please see GAIN reports RS5301 entitled "Food Processing Sector Report," RS5302, "Food Retail Sector," and RS4054, "Fruit Annual."

Section II. Labeling Requirements

Label data

Russian law requires that the following information be placed on the label for fresh packaged fruit and vegetable products, and potatoes:

- product name;
- manufacturer's name and location [in-country legal address, and if this physical location does not coincide with its legal address, the label should provide the producer's address (addresses)] and the address of the organization duly authorized by the manufacturer for accepting claims from consumers on the territory of the Russian Federation (if any);
- manufacturer's trade mark (if any);
- net weight or product volume;
- pomologic (for fruit), botanic (for vegetables and potato) or ampelographic (for grapes) grade;
- trade grade (if any);
- specialized processing instructions (if required);
- advertising materials (if required);
- harvesting and packaging dates;
- grown in protected soil (for products grown in protected soil);
- storage requirements (if required);
- an indication of the regulation or technical document, in accordance with which the product was manufactured and can be identified;
- certification information.

Location of information

According to Russian regulations, consumer and product information must be placed on the package as follows:

- Information must be placed directly on the package in a convenient for reading place. Bottling date of transparent colorless liquid products, bottled in colorless containers may be marked on the reverse side of the label.
- When the package cannot accommodate complete text of the required information, it is permitted, at the manufacturer's discretion, to place the whole or part of the product information on an insert that accompanies each product unit or on a group package; consumer information shall also be supplied with each unit of group consumer packaging used to retail food products in sets. Additional information on baby foods packaged in small-size consumer packaging shall be provided in the inserts that accompany each unit of individual consumer packaging.
- When food products are retailed in the unpackaged form and when foods products are packaged within the sales area in the presence of the consumer, it is permitted,

at the seller's discretion, to display information on such products, provided for by the present standard, on an insert accompanying each consumer packaging unit or on the price tag or within the sales area in the immediate vicinity of the product.

Section V. Pesticides and Other Contaminants

Food products in Russia are governed by the "Sanitary-Epidemiological Rules and Norms" (SanPiN), which provide for maximum residue levels for the two groups of pesticides listed in Table 1. SanPiN also states "it is necessary to control the residue levels of pesticides that were used at the production of raw materials (see parts 3.12 and 3.13)". Points 3.12 and 3.13 of the SanPiN stipulate the following:

- "3.12. - Control over content of residue levels of pesticides and agricultural chemicals, including fumigants, in foodstuff raw materials and food products is conducted based on information on the use of pesticides and agrochemicals in production and storage of the produce. The product manufacturer (supplier) submits this information.
- 3.13. - Sanitary-epidemiological expertise or control of the foodstuff raw materials and food products that contain pesticides is conducted in accordance with the effective hygiene norms on pesticides.

SanPiN also controls maximum levels of various elements as noted in the table below.

Table 1. Pesticide levels

	Not to exceed permitted levels, Mg/kg	Special notes
Hexachlorine- ceclohexan (a β ? – isomers)	0.1	
	0.5	Vegetables
	0.05	Fruits
DDT and its metabolites	0.1	

SanPiN also controls maximum levels for various chemical elements, as noted in table 2, below.

Table 2. Selected controlled elements

Index, Products Group	Indicators	Not to exceed permitted levels, Mg/kg	Special notes
1.6.1 Fresh and frozen vegetables, potato, truck and garden crops, fruits, berries, mushrooms	Toxic Elements	0.5	
	Lead	0.4	fruits
	Arsenic	0.2	
		0.5	
	Cadmium	0.03	
		0.1	
	Mercury	0.02	
		0.05	
	Nitrates		

	Carrots	400	
	- (early crop)	250	
	- (late crop)		
	Onions	80	
	Peppers	200	
		400	Level in soil
	Radio-nuclides		
Vegetables	Cesium- 137	120	
	Stronsium- 90	40	
Fruits, grapes	Cesium	40	
	Stronsium- 90	30	

Source: SanPiN 2.3.2.1078-01

Section IX. Import Procedures

The following documents are required:

- Product Certificate issued by the relevant Russian certification entity. This document (a notarized copy is acceptable) has to be submitted to the customs office when products cross the border. To get this certificate, the importer has to provide the relevant service with the following documents (faxed copies are acceptable):
 - o Signed contract and shipping documents,
 - o Certificate of Origin,
 - o Phytosanitary Certificate from the exporter,
 - o Certificate of Quality,
 - o Import license of the importer,
 - o Certificate of Conformity

Tariff Rates for Selected Products

Table 3. Tariff rates for apples, by type and season

HS Code	Product Description	Special Provisions	Import Duty, rate or %
0808 10 100 0	For production of cider, in bulk	16 September—15 December	0.2 Euro per kg
0808 10 200 "Golden Delicious"			
0808 10 200 1		1 January--31 March	0.1 Euro per kg
0808 10 200 2		1 April--30 June	0.1 euro per kg
0808 10 200 3		1 July--31 July	0.1 Euro per kg
0808 10 200 4		1 August--31 December	0.2 Euro per kg
0808 10 500 "Granny Smith"			
0808 10 500 1		1 January--31 March	0.1 Euro per kg
0808 10 500 2		1 April--30 June	0.1 Euro per kg
0808 10 500 3		1 July--31 July	0.1 Euro per kg
0808 10 500 4		1 August--31 December	0.2 Euro per kg
0808 10 900	n.o.s.		
0808 10 900 1		1 January--31 March	0.1 Euro per kg
0808 10 900 2		1 April--30 June	0.1 Euro per kg
0808 10 900 3		1 July--31 July	0.1 Euro per kg
0808 10 900 4		1 August--31 December	0.2 Euro per kg

Table 4. Tariff rates for pears, by type and season

HS Code	Product Description	Special Provisions	Import Duty, rate or %
Pears			
0808 20 pears and apple-quince			
0808 20 100 0	For production of pear, or pear cider in bulk	1 August--31 December	10
0808 20 500 0	n.o.s.		

Table 5. Tariff rates for grapes, by type

HS Code	Product Description	Special Provisions	Import Duty, rate or %
Grapes			
0806			
Grapes, fresh and dried			
0806 10	Fresh		
0806 10 100 0	Table grapes		5
0806 10 900 0	n.o.s.		5

Table 6. Tariff rates for onions and related produce, by type

HS Code	Product Description	Special Provisions	Import Duty, rate or %
Onions			
0703 10 onions napiform and chalot			
0703 10 110 0	onions sets		15
0703 10 190 0	n.o.s.		15
0703 10 900 0	onion chalot		15
0703 20 000 0	garlic		15
0703 90 000 0	leek and other bulbous vegetables		15

Table 7. Tariff rates for carrots, turnips and peppers, by type

HS Code	Product Description	Special Provisions	Import Duty, rate or %
Carrots and Turnips			
0706 carrots, turnip, beet-root, celery radish and similar edible roots fresh or chilled			
0706 10 000 0	carrots and turnip		15
0706 90	n.o.s.		

Table 8. Tariff rates for peppers, by type

HS Code	Product	Special Provisions	Import Duty, %
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	Description		
Peppers			
0709 60 100 0			
Peppers	Pepper, leguminous sweet		15
0709 60 100 0			
	n.o.s		

Appendix I. Government Regulatory Agency Contacts

Federal Service for Technical Regulation and Metrology (former Gosstandart)
Moscow, Leninsky prospekt, 9
tel. 7 (095) 230-13-20
tel. 7 (095) 237-54-68, fax 7 (095) 237-6231

Federal Service for Consumer Rights and Social Welfare
Moscow, Vadkovskiy per. 18/20
tel. 7 (095) 973-2748, fax. 7 (095) 200-0212, 258-4497
tel. 7 (095) 973-2748, fax 7 (095) 200-0212
tel. 7 (095) 973-2666, 973-1803, 973-2674, fax 7 (095) 258-4497

All-Russian Scientific -Research Institute for Certification (VNIIS)
Moscow, Elektricheskiy per. 3
Boris Krutov, Head of Section
tel. 7 (095) 253-3580, fax 7 (095) 253-3360

"Rostest - Moskva", Russian Center for Test and Certification, GOSSTANDART, RF
31, Nakhimovsky prospect, 117418, Moscow, RF
Zlatkovich Lev Arnoldovich, General Director First Deputy
tel. 7 (095) 129-3200, fax 7 (095) 124-9966

GOST standards can be found at the Library for GOSTs or All-Russian Standardization Fund, or purchased at specialized stores located in Moscow.

Appendix II. Other Import Specialist Contacts

Russian Federation web sites of interest include:

Ministry of Agriculture: <http://www.mcx.ru>

Ministry of Economic Development and Trade: <http://www.economy.gov.ru>

Federal Service for Consumer Rights and Social Welfare of the Ministry of Health and Social Development: <http://www.gsen.ru>